

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 SAB-01 SY-04 USSS-00

SCCT-01 FBIE-00 CPR-01 SCA-01 /070 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1211

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BEIRUT 13383

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UN PLO XF

SUBJECT: BEIRUT PRESS ON PLO DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS

1. SUMMARY: DETAILS OF SADAT HASSAN'S DISCUSSION IN NEW YORK AND ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING DELAYS IN ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO MEMBERS OF PLO DELGATIONS PROLIFERATE IN BEIRUT PAPERS TODAY. END SUMMARY.

2. LEADING PRO-PLO "AL-MUHARRIR" BANNERS: "FROM NEW YORK, AL-MUHARRIR REPORTS: DETAILS OF CRISIS OVER PREVENTION OF PALESTINIAN DELEGATION FROM ENTERING AMERICAN TERRITORY." TEXT OF STORY PURPORTS TO DESCRIBE PROTEST SADAT HASSAN REPORTEDLY MADE TO UNSG WALDHEIM OVER USG'S LACK OF COOPERATION ON QUESTIONS OF VISAS AND HOUSING. HASSAN REPORTEDLY LAID OUT THREE ALTERNATIVES: (A) PALESTINIAN DELEGATION IS PREPARED TO STAY ANYWHERE LIKE SCHOOL, CLUB OR HOSPITAL THAT U.S. AUTHORITIES SUGGEST PROVIDED ITS MEMBERS CAN ENTER UN AND CONTACT OTHER DELEGATIONS AND INFORMATION MEDIA; (B) PALESTIN-
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IAN DELEGATION IS PREPARED TO CHOOSE SUITABLE PLACE

ITSELF, AND AMERICAN POLICE WILL HAVE ONLY TO PROTECT IT; (C) PALESTINIAN DELEGATION IS PREPARED TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS OWN PROTECTION. HASSAN REPORTEDLY STATED THAT IF NONE OF THESE ALTERNATIVES WAS ACCEPTABLE TO USG, UN SHOULD ACT TO HOLD DEBATE ON PALESTINE OUTSIDE NEW YORK.

3. LEADING INDEPENDENT "AN-NAHAR" QUOTES HASSAN AS SAYING THAT AMERICAN OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD HIM THEY FEAR ZIONIST ORGANIZATION WILL CARRY OUT TERRORIST OR SABOTAGE OPERATIONS IN U.S. BEFORE DELEGATION ARRIVES AND TRY TO ASCRIBE THEM TO PALESTINIANS "(AL-MUHARRI" ATTRIBUTES SAME STORY TO "AMERICAN POLICE REPORTS"). "AN-NAHAR" ALSO NOTES THAT HASSAN PLANS TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK TODAY IN PRESENCE OF SEVERAL ARAB AMBASSADOR AND WILL RAISE QUESTION OF DIFFICULTIES FACING PALESTINIAN DELEGATION.

4. UNDER PAGE ONE HEADLINE THAT "ABU AMMAR WILL GO TO NEW YORK ARMED," PRO-FEDAYEEN "AL-LIWA" CARRIES REPORT QUOTING "RESPONSIBLE PALESTINIAN SOURCE" THAT (A) PALESTINIAN DELEGATION WILL BE ALTERED TO INCLUDE DR. MUSTAFA MILHIM, ONE OF FOUR PALESTINIAN DEPORTED FROM WEST BANK BY ISRAELI AUTHORITIES LAST WEEK; (B) INFORMATION DELEGATION HAS BEEN REDUCED FROM 22 TO 15; (C) YASSIR ARAFAT WILL, AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF PALESTINIAN ARMED FORCES, GO TO UN AS CASTRO DID--ON MILITARY UNIFORM, ARMED, AND IN COMPANY OF ARMED ESCORTS; (D) ARAFAT HAS REJECTED TWO USG PROPOSALS TO HOUSE DELEGATIONS ON ARMY BASE OR ON ISLAND NEAR MANHATTAN; (E) USG HAS STILL NOT AUTHORIZED ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO INFORMATION DELEGATION IN SPITE OF FACT ITS MEMBERS TRAVELLING ON ARAB DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS. PAPER QUOTES "EMPLOYEE OF AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS" AS HAVING TOLD SOME MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS THAT DELAY WAS DUE SOLELY TO SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS, SINCE USG DOES NOT WANT TO ISSUE VISAS BEFORE SATISFYING ITSELF RE EFFECTIVENESS OF SECURITY MEASURES FOR DELEGATION.

5. PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-YAWM" MEANWHILE REPORTS THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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"PLO HAS EXPRESSED ITS SURPRISE AT AMEMBASSY BEIRUT'S CONTINUED 'PROCRASTINATION' IN ISSUING ENTRY VISAS TO U.S.A. TO PALESTINIAN DELEGATION HEADED BY MR. YASSIR ARAFAT, APPLICATION FOR ENTRY VISAS WERE PRESENTED TO EMBASSY OVER TEN DAYS AGO. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER EMBASSY IN BEIRUT HAS RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON ON THIS "PROCRASTINATION' OR WHETHER AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT, MR. GODLEY,

IS BEHIND THIS".

6. FINALLY, INDEPENDENT -L'ORIENT-LE JOUR" QUOTES
Wafa News Agency as stating that Arafat will definitely
go to New York to open UNGA debate.
GODLEY

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